

Fort Harrison

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY

140 North Senate Avenue

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
January 21, 1972

Mr. Charles F. Schilling
Vigo County Surveyor
Room 9, Court House
Terre Haute, Indiana 47801

Dear Mr. Schilling:

The holdings of the Archives Division include the original field notes, surveys and tract books. Volume 2, plat 84 shows Township 12 North, Range 9 West and gives the dimensions of each Section. Section 4 is broken up into the following parts:

N $\frac{1}{2}$ E frac	103.32	acres
S $\frac{1}{2}$ E frac	89.51	"
N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ W frac	52.29	"
S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ W frac	84.00	"
N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ W frac	93.00	"
S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ W frac	90.50	"

The tract books show that all this land was purchased through the Vincennes Land Office between 1824 and 1836.

Field Notes are available in Volume 10 North and West, pages 295-296 under the heading "Survey of a Tract of Land reserved for the use of Fort Harrison Lying On the E. side of the Wabash River, and Beginning at Corner of Fractions 8 and 17 T. 12 N. R 9 W on the Bank of said River." This seems to set out the area reserved for the Fort but does not pinpoint its location in Section 4.

Copies of this material can be obtained by Reader-Printer. Please let us hear from you if you wish this service.

Sincerely,

Helen S. Morrison

(Mrs.) Helen S. Morrison
Archives Division

hsm

CHARLES F. SCHILLING
VIGO COUNTY SURVEYOR
ROOM 9, COURT HOUSE
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA 47801
PHONE—232-1452

January 4, 1972

Indiana State Library
Archives Division
Indianapolis, Indiana

Gentlemen:

In an attempt to determine the definite location of Fort Harrison in Section 4, Township 12 North, Range 9 West, Harrison Township, Vigo County, Indiana, we have been unsuccessful in finding any information locally.

We are enclosing a one page copy from Indiana Historical Society Publications "Early Indiana Trails and Surveys" Vol. 6, No. 3 which refers to technical location by government surveyors.

Since you have a copy of the original survey of the public lands of Indiana including original field notes, survey plats and tract books we are interested in knowing if any information such as dimensions and etc. are shown which could be used to reproduce the definite location of old Fort Harrison. If such information is shown please advise the availability and price of same. Many thanks for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Charles F. Schilling
Charles F. Schilling
Vigo County Surveyor

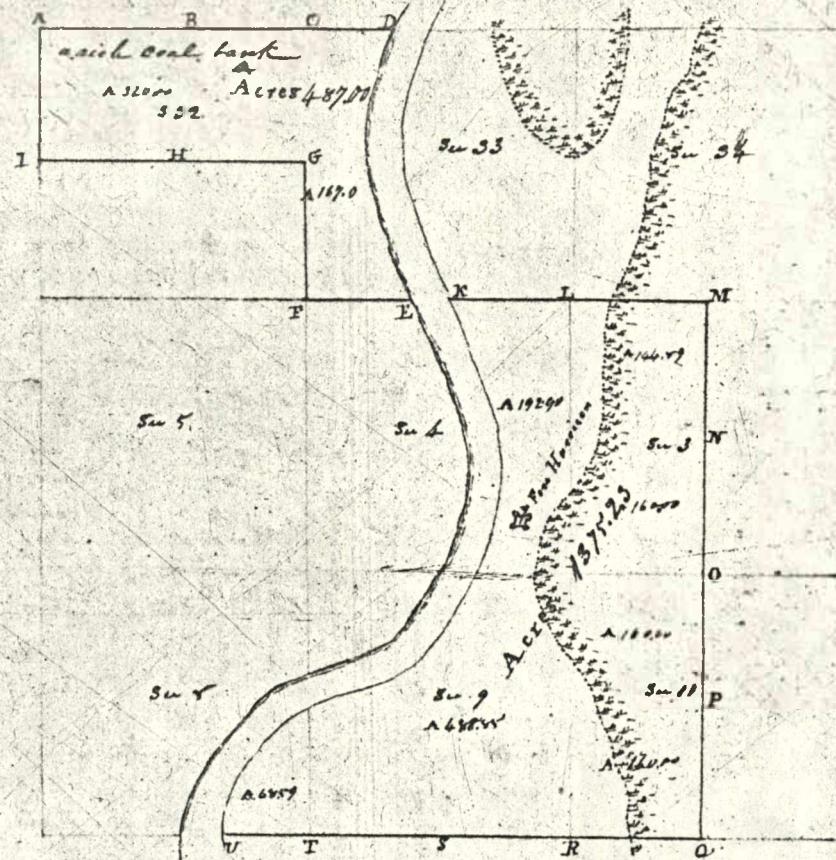
CFS:rw
Enc.

General Land Office

Mr. Davis will
examining the letter
from the
General Land Office
substantiating
John Graham Esq.,
acting Secretary of War.

May 21st 1866

C-268(2)



Part of Township No 12 & 13 North Range No 9 West

Pursuant to Instructions from Edward Tiffey Surveyor General of the United States bearing date the
day of August 2 I have admeasured laid out and Surveyed the above described tract of land which
has been made choice of and appropriated for the use of Ft. Harrison by Major John S. Chauacom
order of Brig. Genl and do certify that it has such marks and bounds both natural and artificial
as are represented on said plan and described in the plan notes made thereof and returned to the
Surveyor General's office, from which place notes the following description of the boundaries are a true copy

J. Colman, D. S. Inst. H.

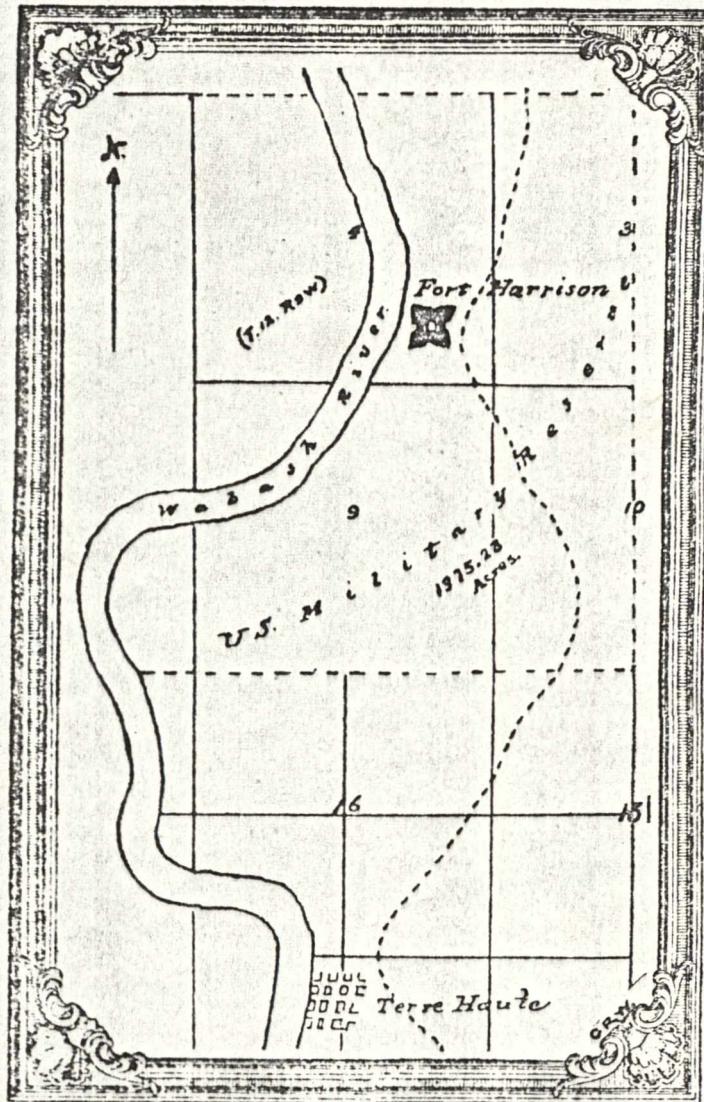


PLATE II.

The above is a tracing of the official government hand-made map with the technical figures of the surveyor omitted. The tracing shows only that part of the reservation nearest the fort.

TECHNICAL LOCATION OF FORT HARRISON.

Fort Harrison was located by the government surveyors in section 4 near Terre Haute. The old Plat Book number 2, pages 84 and 85 has a very good drawing indicating the location of the fort. The military reservation around it contained 1,375.23 acres. Another military reservation of 487 acres was located across the river and to the north.¹⁰³

(Page 6) Plat is at top of page, below it the following statement.

Part of Township No. 12 & North Range No. 9 West

Pursuant to instructions from Edward Tiffin(?) Surveyor General of the United States bearing date this day of August I have admeasured laid out and surveyed the above described tract of land which has been made choice(?) of and appropriated for the use of Fort Harrison by Major John T. Chunn commander of said place and do testify that it had such marks and bounds both natural and artificial as are represented on said plat and described in the field notes made thereof and returned(?) to the Surveyor General's office, from which field notes the following description of the corners(?) are a true copy.

S. Coleman L. S. Index 7 (?)

(The surveyors field notes have not been copied)

1/2 N. Range No. 9 W. 2nd Mer. Ind.

1 lbs lks.

Remarks.

17 28 14.00

18 10.22

19 10.62

20 16.83

1. 29 to cor. of fractions 4 & 9.

William Harris, D. S.

Survey of a Tract of Land reserved for the use of Fort Harrison lying on the East side of the Kabash River, and beginning at corner of fractions 8 & 17 S 12 N R 9 W on the Bank of said River.

bot. a Cottonwood 6 in. diam.

48 to cor. of secs. 8, 9, 16 & 17 - Old cor.

a B. Walnut 24 in. diam. brars N 57 W 18 lks. &
a D^o 10 " " S 26 E 26.

1. Between sections 9 & 16.

10 Old corner.

a W. Oak 8 in. diam. brars N 65 W 44 lks. dist. &
a D^o 10 " " S 25 E 27.

10 To the Old corner.

a B. Oak 12 in. dia. brars S 81 E 8 lks. dist. &
a Sugar 12 " " N 34 E 40 " "

Between sections 10 & 15.

11 To 12 1/2 in. in. 1 in. fringe.

Measurements - made in Moonlight.

Township N^o 12 N. Range R^o 9 W. 2nd Mer. Ind^a

CHS. EKS.

North From the last mentioned Cor.

40.00 Raised a Mound for Quarter Sec. cor. Sec. 10.

80.00 Raised a Mound for Quarter sec. cor. Between Sections 3 & 10.

North From the last mentioned cor.

40.00 Raised a Mound for q. sec. cor. for Sec. 3.

76.20 Intersected Township line 47 lks. W. of the half mile post established for Sec. 34. T 13 N R 9 W
And raised a mound for corner -
No bearing trees.

West On the Township line between Secs. 3 & 34.

Towns 12 & 13 N. R 9 W.

39.82 To old cor. of Secs. 3 & 4. T 12 N. - R 9 W. from w
a W Oak 12 in. diam. bears S 21 W 21 lks d
a 2^o 9 " " " East 64 "

West Between sections 4 & 33. - T 12 & 13 N. - R 9 W.

36.53 an Elm 8 in. diam. - Old corner.

On the River Bank.

Thence with the meanders of the
River, to the first mentioned corner.

Survey in By,

J. Coleman,

19. S.

Survey of Island N^o 1 in Secs. 28, 29, 32 & 33.
from post in line of sec. 28 & 33 on East
Bank of River. Thence

West Between sections 28 & 33.

ship N^o 13 N. Range N^o 9 W. 2nd Mer. Ind.^a.

one Lks.

Surveyed by,

William Harris, D. S.

Survey of a Tract of land Reserved for the use of
St Harrison lying on the W. side of the Wabash R.
beginning at cor. of Secs. 4 & 13 S. 12 E 13 N. R. 9 W.
from which a Walnut 28-S. 56 E. 2 lks. & a B. Walnut 36-
S. 62 W. 9 - thence $\frac{W}{N} 30^{\circ} 60'$ to cor. of Secs. 32 & 33 S. 13 R. 9.
a W. Oak 40-S. 64 E. 58 lks. W. Oak 14-A. 6 E. 21 lks. Thence North
Between Secs. 32 & 33 S. 13 R. 9 - 40' to old half mile post
fr. wh. a W. Oak 20-A. 64 N. 27 Vicky. 3-S. 54 E. 5' - Thence West on
a Random line through Sec. 32 - S. 13 R. 9 - 40' to post 80. 42
N. & S. line 40' N. of go post - East corrected - 40. 21' post fr. wh.
a W. Oak 38-A. 70 E. 21 - W. Oak 30-A. 19 N. 24 lks. - North from
12 m. post. between Secs. 31 & 32 - a Sugar 30-A. 34 E. 49' W. Oak
18-S. 20 N. 8 lks. - 40' cor to Secs. 29, 30, 31 & 32 - a Beech 30-
S. 26 E. 28 - Sugar 12-S. 78 N. 22 - East between Secs. 29 & 32
40' old half mile post - a Maple 18 East 7 lks. an Elm 4-
S. 33 E. 13 lks. 80' old cor. to 28, 29, 32 & 33 - a Sugar 12-
S. 36 E. 30 - - a B. Walnut 10-A. 78 N. 26 - Thence East
Between Secs. 28 & 33. 25. 10' to the Wabash River. a
Maple 4-A. 16 E. 8 - Maple 10-S. 39 N. 14 - Thence with the
Meanders of the River to the first-mentioned cor.

J. Coleman, D. S.

Survey of Island N^o 1. in Secs. 16 & 21.

from post in line of Secs. 16 and 21 on N. W. bank
of River, thence

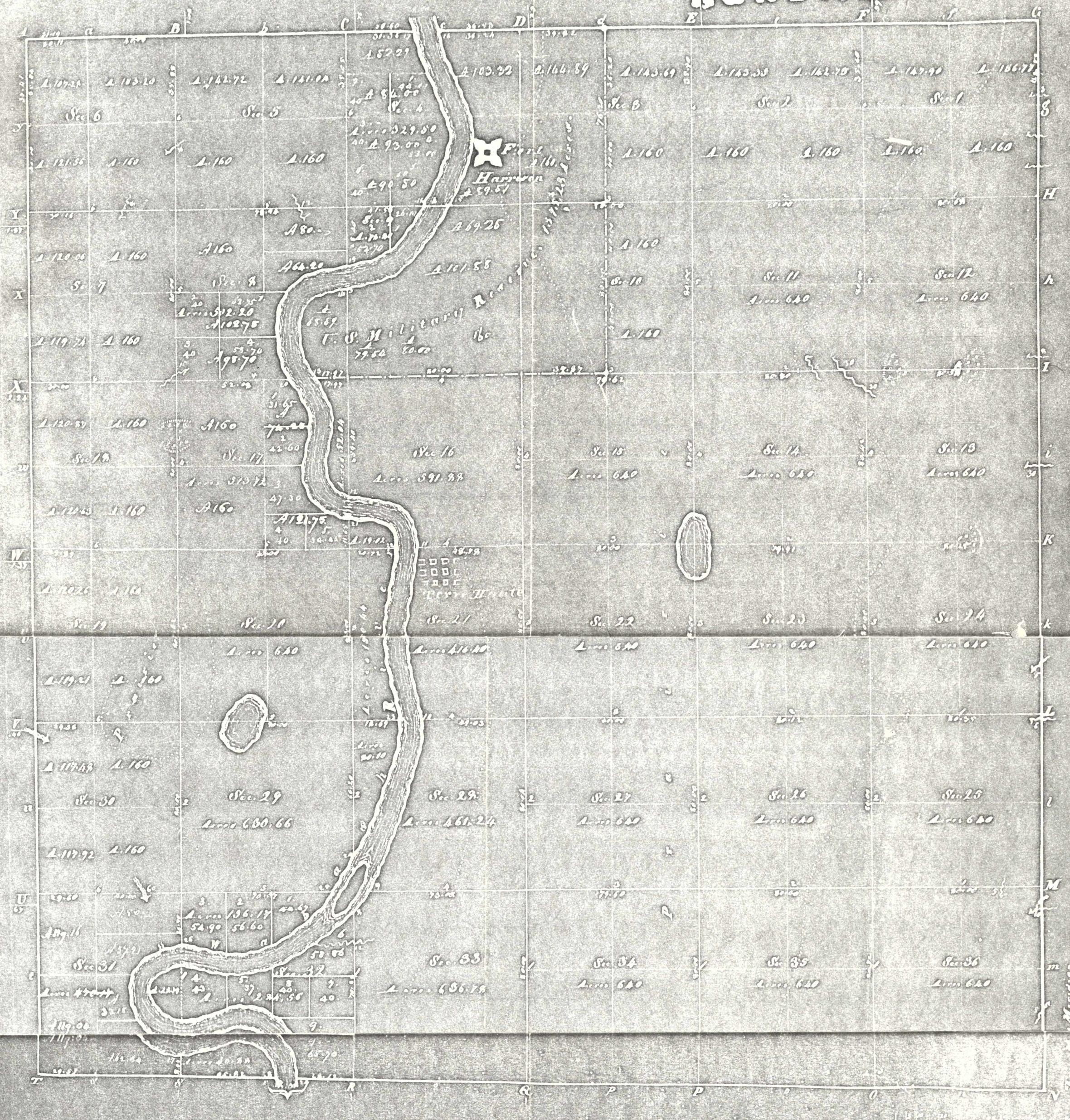
at Between Secs. 16 & 21.

80' to post on Island from which

Bottonwood 8 in. dia. bars 360 N. 25' lks. &

INDIANA.
N & W 2 P. M.

N & W 2 P. M.



Township N° XII. North, Range N° IX West of 2nd Meridian. Surveyed by William Harris 1874

Description of the soils on the interior sectional lines.

Area 2166.276
Total 2166.276

Number Sections	Quality &c.	Number Sections	Quality &c.	Number Sections	Quality &c.
23.36	first rate land	33.34	Dry rich prairie good for farming	31.32	Bottom land which overflows
23.36	first rate grazing land	27.34	Same	29.32	Same
23.26	Similar	27.28	Same	30.31	South & same - North & low 1.101
23.25	Similar	22.27	Same	29.30	Same
23.24	Heavy timbered thick Undergrowth	21.32	Same	27.29	Bottom which overflows
23.24	Similar	25.32	Same	18.30	First & 2 nd tier, low 1st & first rate grazing land
15.14	Wet & bottom Hickory, Walnut, Sugar, Sycamore	15.14	South & same, Hickory, Sugar, Walnut &c	16.20	Hickory, Walnut, Sugar, Sycamore
15.13	Wet & dry prairie East Walnut, Sycamore, Sugar, Hickory good for grazing	17.15	Wet & Bald, Walnut, Hickory & some	17.20	Dry - Walnut, Elm, Maple
15.12	Tree & Bald, Elm, Maple &c.	9.10	Bald land, Heavy timbered	18.19	East & 2 nd tier bottom & bottom, West & top, Hickory, Maple
15.12	Hickory, Sugar, Walnut &c.	3.10	Prairie	17.18	Bottom land
1.2	Ground good for grazing land	3.4	First & Hickory good for farming land	8.19	Walnut, Cottonwood, Elm, Bottom
34.33	Ground prairie with Soil good for grazing	32.33	Level, Bald & Hickory good for grazing land, Sycamore	7.18	Beech, Sugar, Oak, Hickory, Sycamore
2.23	Same	18.33	First & some grazing land - 1st & 2 nd tier bottom which overflows	7.8	Beech, Oak, Sugar, Hickory, Sycamore good for farming
26.27	Same	23.22	First & some grazing land - 1st & 2 nd tier bottom which overflows	15.14	Beech, Oak, Sugar, Elm, 1st & 2 nd tier good for grazing land
23.26	Same	21.24	Oak & Hickory good for grazing land, 1st & 2 nd tier of the river	3.11	Hilly, Jimbee, Same
22.23	Same	15.11	First & bottom land, Sycamore, Walnut, Sugar, Beech &c.	16.21	Ground good for grazing, 1st & 2 nd tier bottom overflows
14.23	Same	16.17	First & bottom which overflows	9.46	Walnut, Sycamore, Hickory, West & low land
11.13	Walnut, Hickory, Walnut, Sugar, Sycamore, bottom	8.7	Ground land which overflows	8.13	Hilly land which overflows
2.11	Dry Prairie good for farming	11.13	Ground land which overflows		
2.3	Same				